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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

Financial performance report for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/56/840) and the proposed budget for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 (A/56/862). During its consideration of the reports, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, as well as with the Chief Administrative Officer of the Mission, who provided additional information and clarification.

2. The Security Council established UNMEE by its resolution 1312 (2000) of 31 July 2000 for an initial period of six months. In paragraph 2 of its resolution 1320 (2000) of 15 September 2000, the Council extended the mandate of the Mission until 15 March 2001 and authorized the deployment within UNMEE of up to 4,200 troops, including up to 220 military observers. The mandate of the Mission has been extended by the Security Council in various resolutions, the latest being resolution 1398 (2002) of 15 March 2002, by which the Council extended the mandate until 15 September 2002 at the troop and military observer levels authorized in its resolution 1320 (2000).

Financial performance report for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001

3. On the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the General Assembly, in its resolution 55/252 A of 12 April 2001, appropriated an amount of $180 million gross ($177,866,900 net) for the operation of the Mission for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, inclusive of the amount of $150 million gross ($148,220,200 net) previously authorized by the Assembly in its resolution 55/237 of 23 December 2000, inclusive of $9,190,200 gross ($8,741,600 net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations. As indicated in the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of UNMEE (A/56/840, para. 12), expenditures for the period totalled

02-31820 (E) 160402

$164,106,000 gross ($162,204,000 net), inclusive of $94,597,000 in unliquidated obligations. The resulting unencumbered balance of $25,084,200 gross ($24,404,500 net) represents, in gross terms, approximately 13 per cent of the appropriation. The Committee questions the appropriateness of including the amount for the support account for peacekeeping operations when calculating the percentage of unencumbered balance against appropriation in financial performance reports. The Committee has commented on this issue in its general report on peacekeeping operations (see A/56/887).

4. As indicated in annex II to the report, the unutilized balance was primarily attributable to the delayed deployment of military observers, along with the reduction of the mission subsistence allowance rate in Eritrea, delayed deployment of military personnel, higher-than-estimated vacancy rates for international and local staff, the cancellation of the hazard allowance in Asmara, reduced requirements for transport and air operations, lower costs for communication equipment owing to the non-acquisition of mobile asset locator tracking systems and lower requirements for contractual services and quick-impact projects.

5. The Advisory Committee notes, as indicated in the report (A/56/840, para. 7 and annex II, paras. 1-3), that the underexpenditure of $5,335,700 in military personnel costs was due in large part to delays in the signing of memorandums of understanding. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the Mission was no longer experiencing such long delays.

6. In addition, the mission subsistence allowance rate in Eritrea was decreased from $95 to $80, with effect from 1 May 2001, bringing the rate for Eritrea to the same level as that for Ethiopia (see ibid., para. 6). The Advisory Committee was informed that the resulting savings for the period amounted to $1,141,300. **The Committee stresses that the cost of living should continue to be the determining factor in setting mission subsistence allowance rates. The Committee trusts that the efficacy of the rates set will be borne out by experience.** The Committee has commented on this issue in its general report on peacekeeping operations (see A/56/887).

7. The Advisory Committee notes that while a 10 per cent vacancy factor had been applied to the budget for international staff for the period, the actual vacancy rate during the period was 39 per cent. For local staff, the vacancy factor used was 10 per cent, whereas the actual rate was 63 per cent (see A/56/840, annex II, para. 5). The savings under civilian personnel amounted to $4,260,400. The Committee was informed that the rates had improved considerably; as at 28 February 2002, the rates were 15 per cent for international staff, 5 per cent for local staff and 30 per cent for United Nations Volunteers.

8. The Advisory Committee was informed that all of the Mission's troop-contributing countries were under wet-lease arrangements. However, the additional performance material provided to the Committee showed overexpenditures under furniture and miscellaneous supplies for troop-contributing countries that were not self-sustained.

9. The Advisory Committee notes that the estimates for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 show a provision for air-conditioned accommodation units (see para. 33 below) . The Committee was informed that in such instances the memorandums of understanding were not amended; rather, recovery was made from the reimbursement to the troop-contributing country concerned. In this connection, the Committee recalls that in its report on the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone of 14 November 2001, the Committee stated its view that the matter of timely modification of memorandums of understanding to reflect instances where the United Nations has taken over functions that contingents had been expected to provide themselves needs to be reviewed urgently (see A/56/621, para. 19). In reply, the Secretariat agreed that the timely amendment of memorandums of understanding was important to ensure accurate financial estimates and expressed its intention to renegotiate memorandums of understanding if permanent differences are established between the agreed requirements and actual capabilities that will significantly impact financial estimates (see A/56/855, annex IV, para. 3).

10. Upon request, the Advisory Committee was provided with details concerning items provided by UNMEE to military contingents (see annex I). The Committee was informed that reimbursement for assistance rendered was based on the rates contained in the Contingent-owned Equipment Manual. The Committee has commented on this issue in its general report on peacekeeping operations (see A/56/887).

11. The Advisory Committee recalls its previous report on UNMEE, in which it discussed the issue of

contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment (A/56/661, para. 22). The Committee was informed at the time that non-reimbursable items were identified during the verification process.

12. **The Advisory Committee expresses concern regarding the administrative workload involved in monitoring and tracking the expenditure for assistance contributed by the United Nations**. The Committee was informed that an attempt had been made to charge an administrative fee of 14 per cent; however, owing to protests on the part of the troop-contributing countries concerned, the decision to levy the fee was not implemented.

13. An underexpenditure of $13,713,300, or 14.5 per cent, is reported under operational requirements, including $3,195,800 under air operations (A/56/840, annex I). Savings under air operations were attributable mainly to the delayed deployment of helicopters to the mission area and a lower number of flying hours than were budgeted (ibid., annex II, paras. 16-18). **The Advisory Committee requests that, in future, reasons be provided for late deployment, as well as for such large variances in the number of hours flown as compared with the number budgeted. A clear indication should also be given in the subsequent budget estimates as to how past patterns in the number of hours flown are taken into account in the preparation of the estimates.**

14. The Advisory Committee discussed with the representatives of the Secretary-General the issue of the criteria used to determine whether to use letter-of-assist arrangements or commercial contracts for aircraft. The Committee was informed that the criteria were as follows: (a) acceptance by troop-contributing countries of the request; (b) more economical commercial contracts in certain cases; (c) unwillingness of commercial air-charter companies to enter into a contract owing to problems related to risk coverage in certain flying sectors; and (d) mission-specific requirements and time constraints that affect the operational readiness of the Mission.

15. The Advisory Committee was also provided with details concerning the arrangements for the air fleet in the Mission (see annex II). The Committee observes, however, that there does not seem to be a consistent policy in place. The Committee was informed, for example, that an international company based in Nairobi could offer medical evacuation at a reasonable price, whereas the Mission uses two aircraft under letter-of-assist arrangements for this purpose. (See also the comments of the Committee on air operations in its general report on peacekeeping operations (A/56/887).)

16. The Advisory Committee recalls that in its previous report, it noted with concern that no progress had been made in the implementation of its recommendation to establish a direct flight link between Addis Ababa and Asmara (A/56/661, para. 14). The Committee notes from the progress report of the Secretary-General on Ethiopia and Eritrea that there still has been no progress in this regard and that the resulting additional expenses to the Mission so far totalled more than $1.4 million (S/2002/245, para. 11).

17. The Advisory Committee was informed that savings of $1,553,100 were realized owing to the use of United Nations aircraft for the rotation of staff officers and the emplacement of troops of one troop-contributing country. **The Committee welcomes this development and encourages other missions to use United Nations air assets for the emplacement, rotation and repatriation of troops wherever possible.**

18. The Advisory Committee notes from the performance report that the savings of $2,653,600 under communications was attributable mainly to lower requirements for communications equipment owing to the fact that the Mission had decided not to acquire the mobile assets locator tracking systems or the two single-site cellular systems. The mobile assets locator tracking systems, upon re-evaluation, were determined not to be cost-effective, and therefore were not purchased. With regard to the two single-site cellular systems, it was found that the quality of the commercially available global system for mobile communications was reliable and more cost-effective (A/56/840, annex II, para. 19).

19. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 31 January 2002, a total of $333,781,073 had been assessed on Member States in respect of UNMEE since its inception. Payments received as at the same date amounted to $205,367,036, leaving an outstanding balance of $128,414,037. As at 31 December 2001, the cash position of the Mission was $55.9 million, and unliquidated obligations for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 July 2001 (as at 31 January 2002) amounted

to $94,590,569. Current loans amounted to $19.0 million.

20. The Advisory Committee was informed that troop-cost reimbursement up to 31 October 2001 totalled $39,517,629, while the amount owed for the period from 1 November 2001 to 28 February 2002 was $16,783,403. With regard to contingent-owned equipment, the Committee was informed that, as at 31 January 2002, an amount of $11,594,392 had been reimbursed and the estimated amount owed was $25,103,258, while unliquidated obligations totalled $26,066,733. In respect of death and disability compensation, $50,000 had been paid as at 31 January 2002 for one claim; there were no pending claims, and unliquidated obligations amounted to $1,497,140.

21. The action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNMEE for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 is indicated in paragraph 16 of the report. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of $25,084,200 gross ($24,404,500 net) for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, as well as interest and other income in the amount of $858,000, be credited to Member States in a manner to be determined by the Assembly.**

Information on performance for the current period

22. The Advisory Committee was informed that, against the authorized staffing establishment of UNMEE for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 of 3,980 military contingent personnel, 220 military observers, 257 international staff, 274 local staff and 82 United Nations Volunteers, the positions encumbered as at 28 February 2002 were 3,771 military contingent personnel, 214 military observers, 219 international staff, 259 local staff and 57 United Nations Volunteers.

23. The Advisory Committee was provided with expenditure data for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 as at 31 January 2002. Expenditure for the period amounted to $109,311,600 gross ($108,694,400 net) against an apportionment of $198,400,000 gross ($194,489,900 net).

Cost estimates for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003

24. As indicated in the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed budget of UNMEE (A/56/862, paras. 1-2 and table 1), the cost of maintaining the Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 is estimated at $220,830,200 gross ($216,814,800 net). This amount represents an 11.3 per cent increase ($22,430,200) in gross terms in relation to the apportionment for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002. The proposed budget reflects increases of $8,243,000, or 7.3 per cent, in military personnel costs; $1,829,300, or 6.5 per cent, in civilian personnel costs; $12,072,600, or 24.1 per cent, in operational requirements; $180,000, or 4.5 per cent, for other programmes; and $105,300, or 2.7 per cent, for staff assessment.

25. The estimate provides for 220 military observers, 3,980 military contingent personnel, 259 international staff, 274 local staff and 82 United Nations Volunteers (see para. 22 above for the current incumbency).

26. The Advisory Committee was informed that the increase under military personnel costs from the appropriation of $112,329,200 for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 to the estimate of $120,572,200 for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 was based on the full deployment of 4,200 military personnel. **The Committee questions the assumption of 100 per cent incumbency for such personnel. The information provided to the Committee showed, for example, that in fact only 95 per cent of such personnel were in place as at 28 February 2002 owing to delayed deployment. Accordingly, the estimate could be adjusted by at least $3 million, or 2.5 per cent of the $120.6 million requested. However, in view of the additional requirements that may arise in connection with the boundary demarcation process, the Committee does not, at the present stage, recommend a reduction in the estimate for military personnel.**

27. The estimated requirements for civilian personnel amount to $29,787,300, an increase of $1,829,300, or 6.5 per cent (see A/56/862, table 1). The estimates take into account a 10 per cent vacancy factor, as well as a hazardous duty station allowance. The proposed changes in staffing requirements (see ibid., sect. VIII) reflect a net increase of two posts, and include requests for one new P-4 post for an HIV/AIDS officer, the

upgrading of the P-3 post of Special Assistant to the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Addis Ababa to the P-4 level to bring it in line with the corresponding post in Asmara and one new Field Service post for an aviation safety assistant. **The Advisory Committee has no objection to the new P-4 post for an HIV/AIDS officer or to the upgrading of the P-3 post to the P-4 level; however, the Committee is of the opinion that, given the amount of training that has been undertaken in the Mission (see also para. 36 below), the aviation safety assistant post should be filled by one of the staff members who have been trained by the Mission.**

28. The Advisory Committee notes that the budgeted level for local staff is G-4, step IV (see ibid., annex II.A, items 12 and 13). The Committee enquired about the use of that level and recalled the experience of other missions, which had shown the level to be higher than warranted. The Committee was informed that there was competition with other agencies in the area, which tended to offer higher pay, often recruiting at the equivalent of the G-5 to G-7 level. In addition, the Mission often loses the staff it has trained. In this connection, the Committee was informed that once demobilization begins it is likely that a larger pool of candidates will become available and that the level budgeted could potentially decrease. **The Committee recalls its request in its previous report that the next budget submission for UNMEE include information on cooperation with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes present in the area of operation (A/56/661, para. 19). This issue is not addressed in annex IV to the proposed budget. The Committee trusts that this matter will be discussed with a view to adopting a mutually beneficial position.**

29. With regard to contingent-owned equipment, the Advisory Committee observes that the mission factors intended to compensate troop-contributing countries for extreme operational conditions in the mission area, in particular those for intensified operational conditions and for hostile action and/or forced abandonment, appear high (see A/56/862, para. 22). Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that a review was under way to establish a policy for the regular review of those factors.

30. The Advisory Committee recalls that in its previous report it requested that the adequacy of the verification capacity and arrangements of UNMEE with respect to contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment be examined (A/56/661, para. 22). The Committee notes the reply given in the budget document, that the UNMEE verification system had been functioning adequately and made use of available personnel resources from both the military and civilian components (A/56/862, annex IV, para. 3). Upon further clarification, the Committee was informed that UNMEE had three international, two military and one local staff for this purpose. This capacity is to cover 7 troop-contributing countries with 13 units requiring 2 reports each. The Committee was also informed that the seven reports on troop strength were compiled, maintained and monitored by one person (military). Thus, a total of 33 reports, including the 7 on troop strength, are submitted to Headquarters every month in accordance with the Contingent-owned Equipment Manual. It appears that the Mission is able to produce its verification reports with a minimum of staff. **In the opinion of the Committee, the verification operations of UNMEE could provide lessons for establishing benchmarks for other missions.**

31. The Advisory Committee notes from the fourth report of the Eritrea/Ethiopia Boundary Commission that the Commission intends to render its decision on delimitation in the first half of April 2002 (S/2002/245, annex I, para. 4). As indicated in the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 13 December 2001, the subsequent demarcation process is expected to be a rather complex, large and costly enterprise (S/2001/1194, para. 33). Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that it would not be possible to plan for the eventual downsizing of UNMEE until the commencement of the demarcation process and until its likely duration was known. **In this connection, the Committee requests that the next budget estimate provide information on the role of UNMEE in the demarcation process, if any, including the cost of assistance to be provided.**

32. As shown in table 1 of the budget document, the estimate of $62,247,700 for operational requirements represents a 24.1 per cent increase over the appropriation of $50,175,100 for the previous financial period. The estimate includes $10,346,400 for non-recurrent costs relating to premises and accommodation ($3,057,500), infrastructure repair ($225,000), transport operations ($237,900), communications ($947,100), other equipment ($2,588,900) and air and surface freight ($3,290,000).

33. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the $3,057,500 requested for non-recurrent costs under premises and accommodation was related to the planned increase from 12 to 29 sites in the temporary security zone. The amount would cover the cost of construction of five new wells for existing and new locations and the cost of 350 air-conditioned accommodation containers for the Italian battalion (see A/56/862, annex I.C, para. 16). The Committee exchanged views with the Chief Administrative Officer of the Mission on the procurement of air-conditioned containers. **The Committee requests that future budget estimates provide full justification and clear reasons whenever it is decided to upgrade accommodation either for the civilian or the military component of this or another mission.**

34. The Advisory Committee was informed that a decision had been taken to dismantle the United Nations-owned mission headquarters in the Economic Commission for Africa compound and to rent new premises at a cost of $15,000 per month, or $180,000 per year. The Committee was also informed that the total number of staff at Addis Ababa was 38 and that the premises to be dismantled comprised 37 containers, 34 of which would be made available for use by one of the mission battalions in Assab. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the ancillary charges relating to the new headquarters in Addis Ababa would amount to $9,650 in recurrent monthly costs and $49,805 in non-recurrent costs for alterations and renovations (see annex III). The Committee notes, however, that those figures do not include recurrent costs for additional security for the new premises. Furthermore, during its meetings with the representatives of the Secretary-General, the Committee was informed that the total cost of the move to new premises would amount to $990,775. The Committee sought, but did not receive, a clarification concerning the relationship between the figures shown in annex III and the total figure of $990,775. The Committee requests that a clarification, as well as information concerning recurrent costs for additional security for the new premises, be provided to the Fifth Committee for its consideration in the context of the UNMEE budget.

35. **In view of the progress made by the Boundary Commission (see para. 31 above) and the likelihood that the Mission may begin downsizing next year, the Advisory Committee considers the decision to rent new premises and the costs involved in short- and long-term rentals to be without operational justification. Furthermore, the Committee sees no adequate justification to have proceeded with this change without first including a proposal in the budget estimate for the Mission. The Committee would like to draw attention to the fact that although the General Assembly authorizes the Secretary-General to exercise flexibility in implementing the overall budget appropriated for this and all other missions, that flexibility must be exercised in a manner that does not call into question the basis on which the initial estimate had been prepared and submitted to the Assembly. Cost overruns for items included in the estimates approved by the Assembly on the basis of recommendations of the Advisory Committee must not be confused or equated with the initiation of completely new projects that have no adequate operational justification in terms of mandate implementation.**

36. The estimates include $4,207,600 for other programmes, including $626,500 for public information programmes, $393,400 for training and $3,187,700 for mine-clearing programmes. With regard to training, the Advisory Committee recalls that for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, $67,600 was spent of the $136,900 appropriated, and 10 staff out of the 18 provided for were trained (see A/56/840, annex II, para. 29). For the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, the budget estimate included provision for 46 personnel at a cost of $399,300 (see A/56/610, annex II.A). In the estimate for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, the request is for training of 57 personnel at a cost of $393,400. Thus, in the three years mentioned, a total of 113 staff, or more than the entire Professional establishment of 110 staff, will have undergone training. The Committee notes that for the period ending 30 June 2002, 10 staff were to be trained in data processing, 15 in communications and 5 in air operations. For the period ending 30 June 2003 the corresponding figures are 14 in data processing, 10 in communications and 9 in air operations. The Committee points out, in this connection, that the number of staff to be trained in data processing for the two-year period totals 24. The number of Professional and Field Service posts for the Electronic Services Section during both financial periods is 23 (see A/56/610, annex VI, and A/56/862, annex V). **The Committee recommends that, in future, missions**

should, to the extent possible, train trainers for some of the services of the Mission. This would obviate the need to train relatively large numbers of personnel from the same service in locations outside the Mission.

37. An estimate of $3,187,700 is proposed for mine-clearing programmes (see A/56/862, annex I.C, para. 31). The Advisory Committee was informed that this amount did not include additional funding that could arise from the boundary demarcation process. **The Committee requests that additional information on this issue be provided in the next budget estimates.**

38. The action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNMEE for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 is indicated in paragraph 3 of the report. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the Assembly approve the appropriation of the amount of $220,830,200 gross ($216,814,800 net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period beginning 1 July 2002, to be assessed at a monthly rate of $18,402,517 gross ($18,067,900 net), subject to the extension of the mandate of the Mission by the Security Council.**

Annex I

Items provided by the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea to various troop-contributing nations as at 14 March 2002

Contingent	*Commodity*	*Quantity*	*Cost*	*Period*	*Category as per memorandum of understanding*	*Remarks*
Bangladesh, Engineers	Refrigerator container	1	$900 per month	From 12 February 2001 to date	Self-sustainment, catering	Shared with the Jordanian battalion for the period from 12 February 2001 to date. Cost to be shared 80:20, and costs to be deducted from reimbursement.
Kenya, infantry	Refrigerator container	4	$900 per month	1 from 12 February, 1 from June, 1 from March and 1 from September 2001 to date	Self- sustainment, catering	Costs to be deducted from reimbursement.
	Tents	306	$22.60 per person per month	From 1 July 2001 to date	Self-sustainment, tentage	Reflected in the verification report in terms of person-months. New rates are applied as approved by the General Assembly. Costs to be deducted from reimbursement.
	Flack jackets	606	$250 each	From 1 July 2001 to date	Personnel costs	Cost to be recovered from personnel costs.
	Helmets	606	$97 each	From 1 July 2001 to date	Personnel costs	Cost to be recovered from personnel costs.
India, infantry	Refrigerator container	6	$900 per month	3 between 2 and 5 July 2001 to date and 3 from December 2001 to date	Self-sustainment, catering	Cost to be recovered from self-sustainment reimbursement.

Annex II

Air fleet arrangements

Type of aircraft	*Letter-of-assist*	*Commercial contract*	*Block hours budgeted*	*Remarks*
Helicopters				
M18 MTV	-	Yes	45	Cost-effective
M18 MTV	-	Yes	45	Cost-effective
Casevac/Medevac	Yes, French	-	12	Meets medical and casualty evacuation requirement
Bell-212	Yes, Italian	-	40	Commercial contract not available due to insurance-related issues
Fixed-wing aircraft				
AN-26	-	Yes	60	Cost-effective
HS-125	-	Yes	30	Cost-effective
C-160	Yes, French	-	12	Meets medical and casualty evacuation requirement
G-222	Yes, Italian	-	60	Commercial contract not available due to insurance-related issues
P-166	Yes, Italian	-	50	Cost-effective
IL-76	Yes, Ukrainian	-	25	Cost-effective

Annex III

Ancillary charges for new headquarters building in Addis Ababa

Non-recurrent costs	*Birr*	*United States dollars*
Alteration and renovation		
Partitions	91 881	
Openings and doors	15 100	
Plank ceilings, canopies for entrance, flagpole, signboard, etc.	38 852	
Aluminium and metal grill	40 800	
Fencing of compound	45 000	
Carpeting	5 700	
Plumbing	16 850	
Painting	1 266	
Soundproofing of radio studio	6 182	
2 flushtype doors	6 000	
Flat iron bracket to safe	1 000	
Windows	4 000	
Supply and installation of draperies and curtains	32 080	
Subtotal	**304 711**	**35 605**
Upgrade of electrical system		8 500
One-time cleaning, polishing, etc.		5 700
Total, non-recurrent costs		**49 805**
Recurrent monthly costs		
Maintenance supplies (standard 15% of rent)		2 250
Maintenance services (standard 15% of rent)		2 250
Utilities		
Water		300
Electricity		3 000
Cleaning services		
Janitorial		1 500
Garbage collection		350
Total, recurrent monthly costs		**9 650**

Note: The current contract for cleaning services is for two months only. UNMEE is asking for bids for this contractual service.